

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 03386 261437Z

ACTION SP-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 EB-08 SS-15 SSO-00 INR-10

INRE-00 OES-09 L-03 /058 W

-----064312 261441Z /42

O 261136Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7966

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KHARTOUM 3386

STADIS//////////

FOR S/P: LAKE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON

SUBJECT: U.S. ECONOMIC POLICY TOWARD AFRICA

REF: (A) STATE 182775, (B) KHARTOUM 3281

1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES DESIRE OF TEAM TO TRAVEL OUTSIDE KHARTOUM TO SEE FIRST HAND EXAMPLES OF DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS IN SUDAN. IN FACT, WE CONSIDER SUCH TRAVEL ESSENTIAL TO THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THEIR MISSION. HOWEVER, OVERLAND TRAVEL OUTSIDE KHARTOUM IS PRACTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE DURING CURRENT RAINY SEASON, ESPECIALLY WITH FLOOD CONDITIONS IN AREAS IMMEDIATELY NORTH OF KHARTOUM. AT SAME TIME, LOCAL AIR CHARTERS ARE DIFFICULT AND UNDEPENDABLE, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE, BECAUSE OF ACUTE FUEL SHORTAGE AGGRAVATED BY RAIL WASHOUTS.

2. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, CHARGE HAS APPROACHED CHEVRON OIL COMPANY RESIDENT MANAGER TO SEE IF THEY COULD BE OF ASSISTANCE WITH THEIR AIRCRAFT AND HIGH PRIORITY FUEL ALLOCATION. HIS RESPONSE WAS POSITIVE, BUT HE INDICATED

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THAT APPROVAL OF HIS SAN FRANCISCO HEADQUARTERS WOULD BE REQUIRED. CHARGE AGREED THAT HE WOULD ASK DEPARTMENT TO CONTACT CHEVRON AND MAKE REQUEST DESCRIBING PURPOSE OF FLIGHT AND PASSENGERS. OUR CURRENT THINKING IS THAT FLIGHT WOULD DEPART KHARTOUM AUG. 2 AND OVERFLY SEVERAL MAJOR AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS INCLUDING RAHAD, GEZIER AND KENANA ENROUTE TO BENTU WHERE THEY COULD VISIT CHEVRON

OIL EXPLORATION SITES AND PERHAPS VISIT VILLAGES IN THIS
REMOTE AREA. THEY WOULD RETURN TO KHARTOUM AUG 3. AID
REP., AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIST AND PERHAPS SENIOR OFFICIAL
FROM MINISTRY OF PLANNING WOULD ACCOMPANY TEAM.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE TELEPHONE D.O. "SWEDE"
NELSON, PRESIDENT, CHEVRON OVERSEAS PETROLEUM (415-894-0451)
AND SEE IF PERMISSION WILL BE GRANTED AND TELEXED TO CHEVRON
KHARTOUM. FYI: NELSON IS A LEADING MEMBER OF U.S. SIDE OF
SUDAN-U.S. BUSINESS COUNCIL.
MERRICK

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NNN

Message Attributes

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